



REMARKS

1. Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner has restricted the claims of the subject application into the following invention groups:

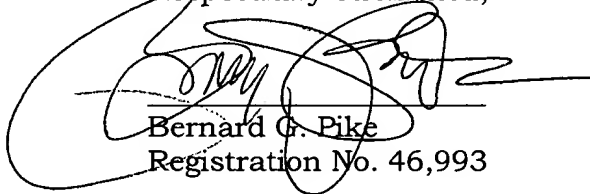
- I. Claims 86-139, 151-158, and 271-272; and
- II. Claims 140-150, 159-162, 224-229, and 270.

Applicants herein elect Group I, including Claims 86-139, 151-158, and 271-272 for further examination in the subject application without traverse and without prejudice or disclaimer.

CONCLUSIONS

Applicants have made a diligent effort to fully respond to the Restriction Requirement presented by the Examiner. Examination of the application's elected claims and issuance of a Notice of Allowance at an early date are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any concerns regarding Applicants' present response, he is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below so that those concerns may be expeditiously addressed.

Respectfully submitted,


Bernard G. Pike
Registration No. 46,993

KIRKPATRICK & LOCKHART LLP
Henry W. Oliver Building
535 Smithfield Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2312
Telephone: (412) 355-8620
Facsimile: (412) 355-6501